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◯	◯	I find myself asking others to repeat themselves.
◯	◯	People complain that I have the T.V. volume too loud.
◯	◯	I avoid social situations because of my hearing.
◯	◯	I have difficulty understanding some women and children's voices.

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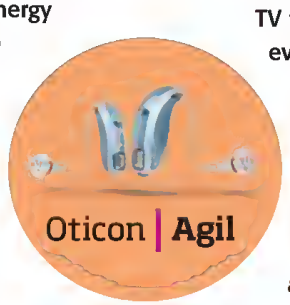
When's the right time for a hearing evaluation?

Probably sooner than you think.

As the old story goes, there's good news and bad news about hearing loss. The good news is that the human brain – your brain – is amazingly good at adapting to many different kinds of obstacles, including things like hearing loss. You may be suffering from a slight decline right now and be hardly aware of it, because you've found ways to compensate – simple things like turning your head and leaning forward to hear better; or asking people to repeat what they've said; or waiting for the conversation to move on so you can catch up. Maybe you're adapting by simply avoiding social situations like noisy restaurants and parties, where the background noise makes it so hard to understand the conversation that you really have to strain to hear. Still, by coping and adapting, you feel like you're getting by.

KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MISSING.

So what's the bad news? You may be adapting so well that you don't know what you're missing. You're unaware of lost information, lost opportunities, and the lost energy you spend just trying to keep up. You just know that social situations are more tiring than they used to be. Those embarrassing moments when you don't catch someone's name or some other important bit of information are growing more frequent.



If you're like many people with age-related hearing loss, the condition progresses as you get older. And as it progresses, you work harder to cope, maybe without even realizing it. As good as your brain may be at adapting, the effort it takes tends to diminish the parts of your life that matter most: **sharing with friends and family, keeping ahead in your business, and spending time out in the community.**

People with advanced hearing loss describe this state as a feeling of isolation, of being trapped. They find it physically and emotionally tiring to strain to hear a conversation in a noisy setting. It's just too hard to make the effort. So they give up.

BREAK THROUGH THE ISOLATION WITH NEW HEARING TECHNOLOGY.

There is help for people with hearing loss: a wonderful array of modern hearing solutions that can make it easier to breakthrough the wall of noise and focus on what's important. Modern hearing technology, like the Agil instrument from Oticon, can not only help bring you back to a fuller and more vibrant social life; it can make things like concerts, radio, telephone and TV much more rewarding experiences than ever before.

But what happens is that people tend to put off getting help later than they should. They adapt a little more, and miss out a little more, every year. They don't realize how much they're struggling, and living increasingly isolated lives.

DON'T LET OLD MYTHS ABOUT HEARING AIDS DELAY YOUR CHANCE AT A FULLER LIFE.

There are a variety of reasons that people put off getting help. The main one is a lack of understanding of what modern hearing technology is and how it helps. We've found that there are at least three big myths that keep people from trying out hearing technology, putting them on the road to years of frustration and isolation instead of a happier life.

MYTH #1 Hearing instruments are just amplifiers... and I don't need more loudness.

Hearing aids used to attempt to help just by upping the volume of every sound. But that's not how it's done today. Devices like Oticon Agil now use the latest breakthroughs in microprocessor design, audio signal processing technology, and materials science, not to indiscriminately raise the volume of what you hear, but to sharpen the focus of what you hear. So you're better able to hone in on a conversation in a wall of party noise, and shift attention from one voice to another as you choose. It becomes easier to understand and respond to a soft, high-pitched voice – a child or an elderly person, for example – because your hearing instrument works to help your brain recognize natural speech cues and keep competing noise less distracting. The new hearing devices even use Bluetooth™ technology which lets you stream sound from a TV, phone, computer, or other Bluetooth device, for a high-end audio entertainment experience.

So this is not your grandmother's ear trumpet. Nor is it your father's case-and-cord hearing aid. Agil is a hearing instrument exquisitely programmable to match your hearing profile and works with your brain to help you hear more naturally, even in difficult hearing situations.

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■ TOWN'S TOP BOSS

Pelham hires CAO

MARYANNE FIRTH
PelhamNEWS Staff

There's a new head honcho headed to Pelham.

After a search spanning several months, the town has hired a new chief administrative officer to fill the shoes left by Martin Yamich, who retired at the end of 2011.

Planning director Craig Larmour has been sitting in as acting CAO, but come May 28 he'll be back to wearing his old hat.

That's when Darren Ottaway will take the helm of the town.

Ottaway topped the list of 55 candidates who applied for the position from across the country.

see CAO | page 7

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■ PELHAM HOME AND LESIRUE SHOW: Three-day showcase at Pelham Arena

Ushering in the outdoor season

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

After a winter of slumber, the Pelham Home and Leisure Show is set to kick off a spring and summer of outdoor activity.

"People look forward to the home show because it signals a beginning of the summer," said Kinsmen publicity director Kevin Twomey.

"It's a place to meet your friends, visit with local vendors and plan projects," he said about the three-day show at Pelham Arena this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The home show features about 70 vendors.

"We have a good variety including window installers, roofers, countertop makers and landscapers," said Twomey.

"We also have a waiting list of vendors to fill in openings, which is unusual."

The Town of Pelham will have a booth taking orders for 315-litre rain barrels. It has just received 150.

Fonthill and District Kinsmen Club started the home show 17 years ago to showcase small local businesses that could not afford to enter large shows dominated by big chains.

Twomey said the approach has proved successful. The Kinsmen continue to cater to local businesses.

While most come to make themselves known to the public, "the vendors are also ready to deal, if you have a project in mind."

see HOME SHOW | page 2

Supplied photo

Kevin Twomey, Kinsmen Club of Fonthill and District public relations director, stands beside one of the signs leading to the 17th annual Pelham Home and Leisure show being held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Pelham Arena.

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■ **LIBRARY:** Clothing sale next week

You can dress up or down

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Second Hand Rose will be well dressed when she leaves the Pelham Public Library next week.

The library holds is annual sale "of used, new and vintage clothes for all sizes and ages."

Library director Stephanie Stowe, trying on a vest and scarf, said the library has received a wonderful selection of clothing for the sale.

"Some of the donations still have the tags on them."

The sale helps patrons redistribute clothes from cleaned out closets. They can trade dressy office clothes for casual retirement wear.

Young people can stretch budgets with inexpensive attire. Parents can dress growing youngsters in style.

And you can find accessories such as purses, ties, jewelry, scarves and hats.

Stowe said the library raises about $3,000 from each clothing sale.

Proceeds go to helping library programs such as book clubs, book deliveries to those homebound or in nursing homes, children's programs, young adult programs as well as books, DVDs and other library items.

The sale runs next week during regularly library hours.

It begins Monday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. runs Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On Saturday, Bargain Day, you can fill a garbage bag for $5.

The sale is very popular, said Stowe.

"Some people come in every day to see what's new," she said.

The library continues to receive donations of clothing through the sale.

Other events coming to the library include:

• A computer tutor and gadget clinic providing One-on-one help for beginners with web browsing, searching, webmail account set-up and management, e-readers, e-books and audiobooks from the library, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. It will also assist with You Tube as well as managing, editing and sharing your digital photos online. Includes use of laptop or BYOG (bring your own gadget). Saturdays to June 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. $5 per 1/2 hour. Please register ahead in person to reserve your space.

• Humour author William Thomas will speak on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 in advance and $12 at the door. Books for sale and signing. The event is financially assisted by the Canada Council for the Arts through The Writers' Union of Canada.

• Spring Fling Fashion Show for Pelham Public Library presented as a fundraiser by The Friends of the Pelham Public Library on Sunday, May 6 at 2 p.m. It includes a fashion show, silent auction and refreshments. Fashions by Dorlene's and Pennington's from the Seaway Mall. Tickets are $15 available at Dorlene's, Pennington's and Pelham Library (905-892-6443).

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Marsha Hunt, left, Pelham Public Library's deputy director, and director Stephanie Stowe sort through donated clothes for he library's annual clothing sale. The sale runs from Monday April 23 to Saturday, April 28 during regular library hours at the Fonthill branch. Proceeds go to the library's purchases and programs.

■ **HOME SHOW**

Fundraiser for Kinsmen, local charity

FROM PAGE 1

The show is the Kinsmen club's major fundraiser for the year. Money raised though the rental of spots to vendors help to finance programs such as the annual Kinsmen seniors Christmas dinner, sports teams and citizen of the year program.

The $2 admission fees are earmarked for local charities.

> **"Come down, meet you friends and check what the vendors have to offer for your homes and for outdoor fun."**
>
> *Kevin Twomey, Kinsmen Club of Fonthill and District public relations director*

"We have yet to select who we will direct the money to," said Twomey. "In the past, we've donated to Pelham Cares, high school scholarships and the Welland Hospital Foundation."

The home show runs Friday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Come down, meet you friends and check what the vendors have to offer for your homes and for outdoor fun," he said.

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■ **MODEL RAILROADING:** Toys for boys and girls of all ages showcased at open house

Miniature world brought to life

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNEWS Staff

You can never predict how many people are going to show up, says Richard Pengelly.

After about 30 years of running open houses with the Greater Niagara Model Railroad Engineers, the club's current president said it's usually surprising or disappointing.

"You might have a beautiful day and figure you're going to have all sorts of people and nothing happens," he said.

He was pleasantly surprised by the number of people who crowded into the building at 1141 Maple St. in Fenwick to see the miniature world the members created. Within less than two hours of opening the doors on a rainy Sunday afternoon, more than 160 people had already walked through the doors.

For long-time members such as Pengelly, who have spent countless hours over the past few decades creating the miniature railroad and the intricate landscape, seeing the reaction from visitors who arrived to enjoy the fruits of their labour is very rewarding.

"Most of the trees that are on the layout, I made them," Pengelly said.

He pointed out a realistic looking fir tree growing along the railroad tracks. That tree, he explained, is really a length of frayed rope with some wire twisted through it. Other trees are made from dried weeds.

"And those rocks over there, you know what they are?" he asked, pointing to a section of track that looked as though some tiny workers blasted through a mountain of shale rock to lay them.

"You know the paper ceiling tile, you take it and cut it and brake it and you get the layers."

Pengelly said the club currently has about 18 members, and each of them specialize in a different element of bringing the tiny world to life.

For instance, while Pengelly and a few other members create the landscapes, he said others are interested in the electronics involved in keeping the trains moving.

"If anyone's interested in joining, we're always looking for new members," he said, adding the members have to be at least 14 years old to join.

The club meets Wednesday nights at 7 p.m., and people interested in joining are welcome to attend.

Another open house is scheduled for next Sunday, from noon until 4:30 p.m. That will be the last open house for the club until next November.

allan.benner@sunmedia.ca

ALLAN BENNER Staff Photos
TOP: Foreground, Spencer Kleniewski, 9, and William Guitard, 10, watch as a model train rolls by during the Greater Niagara Model Railway Engineers Open House.

BELOW: Elliot Douglas, front, gets a close up look at one of the model trains.

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■perspective

Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Picking up after yourself

If you're going to rake the lawn, pull out papers from the hedges, and, pick up cups and cans from the ditch, you may as well get credit for it. The town is giving you a chance to tally up your tasks if you do them on Participation Day.

By going into the town's website, www.pelham.ca, and hunting down the "Community Clean Up Registration Form" you can notch one up for your chores.

Participation Day, the twice a year event organized by Pelham Communities in Bloom Committee, will for the second time spread over three days.

Next Thursday, April 26, is Business Participation Day when store owners and employees are encouraged to spruce up their property. On Friday, April 27, students are urged to polish the playgrounds, laneways and other areas around the schools. Schools are asked to register their projects on the website. Saturday, April 28, is the Community Clean Up day. If you work at home, you can register with the town for credit.

If you want company, you can join crews at Centennial Park in Fenwick who will clean up along roadsides around town between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tim Hortons is supplying coffee and other assistance including promoting the day on video screens at its two locations on Regional Rd. 20. The Fenwick Lions Club will reward volunteers with a barbecue.

Pelham Community services manager Vickie vanRavenswaay said business and school registrations are coming in. The three-day approach makes sense, she says, because it allows businesses and schools to get involved at times convenient to them.

Saturday is easiest for the public.

Think of it as picking up after yourself following a lazy winter.

New sound system makes council more accessible

Dave Augustyn
MAYORAL VIEW

During a recent Council meeting, town staff pointed out to me a gentleman sitting in the front row who was using a small machine to audio-tape council's proceedings. This surprised me since we are fortunate that our local Cogeco Cable company regularly video tapes and broadcasts council meetings. (In fact, I am always pleased when residents inform me that they regularly watch our council meetings on Cogeco!)

At least one member of council saw the gentleman's action and raised a "point of order." While the Town Clerk read from our procedural bylaw – which was approved in 2005 and allows for recording of council meetings with expressed written consent – the gentleman ceased his recording. (That meant that I did not actually have to rule on the matter.)

Because council recently approved some major audio and video improvements to Pelham's Council Chamber, our meetings should be totally accessible and available for future reference.

Within the last year, the town applied for and received an "enabling accessibility grant" from the federal government. The grant "...supports community-based projects across Canada that improve accessibility, remove barriers, and enable Canadians with disabilities to participate in and contribute to their communities."

The grant funded improvements include:

■ Microphones at each councillor's seat and at the presentation podium;

■ Speakers to assist members of the public to better hear the proceedings;

■ Video cameras, able to record all meetings – including public meetings, Committee of Adjustment meetings, or special meetings (that Cogeco does not currently tape);

■ Media inputs for Cogeco, so that their set-up and take-down time will be dramatically reduced to five minutes.

These improvements will also mean that the town will be able to "stream" digital recordings from the town's website and to offer and maintain a record of all meetings.

I hope that these changes will not only make it easier for folks to hear the proceedings of Council or Committee of Adjustment, but also that it will make council meetings even more accessible to you and your neighbours.

For example, if there's an issue you read about in the newspaper and you want to see what the discussion looked like, you should be able to do so from the town's website.

I hope that these improvements will help advance one of council's Strategic Plan themes — "An Engaged and Integrated Community" — by increasing opportunities for you and your neighbours and friends to interact with Council and I and for Council and I to better interact with you.

You may contact Mayor Dave Augustyn at mayordave@pelham.ca or read past columns at www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com.

2012 Earth Day partnerships

Brian Baty
REGIONAL COUNCIL VIEW

Everyone is invited to celebrate Earth Day this year on Sunday, April 22 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Ball's Falls Conservation Area.

The NPCA has partnered with RONA and the E. L. Crossley EARTH Club to present a novel program for young people and their families.

The origin of the student club name comes from the acronym resulting from the first letters of the words Environmental Advocates Ready To Help. About ten students from E. L. Crossley including several from the EARTH Club, are preparing components for 300 bird houses to be assembled and decorated at Ball's Falls on Earth Day. Sharon Keller, head of Science Department as the club staff advisor and directing the EARTH club students.

Many students have volunteered to help with that work as well as assist with the assembly of toad houses. Also available will be guided tours of the Ball's Falls Grist Mill and guided eco-tours of the Upper Ball's Falls.

RONA, Welland has partnered with this event by providing all the material: wood, nails and hammers for the nesting boxes.

Celebrated every April 22, Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide.

More than 6 million Canadians join 1 billion people over 170 countries in hosting events and projects to address local environmental issues. Nearly every schoolchild in Canada takes part in an Earth Day activity.

In Canada the event has spread into Earth Week where thousands of people, schools, employee groups and community groups are becoming a catalyst for change.

The Ball's Falls admission is free for children 5 and under; $4.25 for ages 6 to 18 and seniors; with an adult entrance admission and parking for $5.75 with a carload maximum of $18.

Light refreshments will be available for purchase with a limited number of bird nesting boxes and toad houses available. Some may wish to take home the assembled products and some may wish to direct them to conservation areas.

If you wish to expand your interest throughout Earth Week, I recommend the following parks and trails. The St.John's Trout pond is found by travelling down Pelham Street to Hollow Road. The pond itself is located in Thorold but there are several trails that roam into Pelham.

The E. C. Brown site is across from the airport on River Road up from Effingham Street. The early spring has caused many of the native species to begin their growth and a gravel trail runs around the wetland complex.

Morgan's Point in Wainfleet is another interesting site to explore as are the John Nemy and Lathrop Trails off Marlene Stewart Streit Park.

For those in the Chantler Road area, Pelham's own beauty is the Bradshaw Park which has a central gravel trail and a few looping side trails.

Of course our largest trail system is found in the Shorthills Provincial Park with access from the Roland Road parking area in Pelham.

Happy Earth Day and Week to all and bats off to the E.L. Crossley EARTH Club, Rona Welland the the NPCA for the great kickoff!

Brian Baty is a Niagara Regional Councillor for the Town of Pelham and a member of the NPCA Board of Directors brian.baty@niagararegion.ca

■ **POLITICS:** Town councillors rally for Fort Erie slots and Grimsby hospital

Pelham trashes two provincial decisions

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Town councillors called two recent decisions from Toronto ridiculous and based on pretzel logic.

Council endorsed resolutions from Niagara-on-the-Lake to reverse the elimination of slot machines at Fort Erie Race Track and from Grimsby urging the provincial government to reinstate funding to rebuild West Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Durley

Ward 3 Coun. John Durley said at a time when Niagara is suffering economic hardship, to eliminate jobs in Fort Erie is utterly ridiculous.

Augustyn

Mayor Dave Augustyn said a decision to cancel funding for the planned rebuild of the hospital puts the whole matter of hospitalization in Niagara up for debate again,

Papp

Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp. has decided to close the slot machines at the Fort Erie racetrack, putting 200 people out of work.

It would in turn put pressure on the future of the racetrack and threaten the jobs the people who work in the local horse racing industry.

Pelham has already supported a resolution from Fort Erie challenging the decision.

The slot machine facility is still making money and never lost money, Durley said.

"It just doesn't make sense."

Fellow Ward 3 Coun. Peter Papp, who is involved in the United Way and social services, said the decision will impose stress on families involved.

"Among those 200 people are dual-employee families," he said. "They will be in deep financial and social distress."

The premier should take a long hard look at this, he said.

"I just can't understand the rationalization. It's all ill advised."

> **"Among those 200 people are dual-employee families. They will be in deep financial and social distress."**
>
> *Ward 3 Coun. Peter Papp*

Augustyn said Niagara Region fully supports Fort Erie and will be lobbying the provincial government over the issue.

It will similarly push for a restoration of funding to rebuild West Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

Augustyn told council the Grimsby rebuilding project was tied in with plans for the general hospital under construction in St. Catharines.

West Lincoln would provide services to complement those at the new St. Catharines hospital.

Papp said the people served by the west Niagara hospital had already raised a considerable amount of money toward the rebuilding.

"The services will augment those provided in St. Catharines," he said.

The decision to cut off funding "is based on some form of pretzel logic, I just don't understand it."

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pelhambrief

MAPLEVIEW CHARITIES BOOSTING EDUCATION OF AREA TEENS

WELLAND — Mapleview Charities is committed to supporting children and youths of south Niagara.

And the group did so in a big way in 2011.

It was announced at its annual general meeting that Mapleview Charities donated more than $30,000 last year to the communities of Welland, Pelham, Port Colborne and Wainfleet.

The group's year-end financial statements were presented at the meeting, which took place Wednesday, March 21.

Throughout the year, more than $10,000 was provided through 18 scholarships serving the following high schools: Welland Centennial, Confederation, E.L. Crossley, Eastdale, Jean Vanier, Lakeshore Catholic, Notre Dame and Port Colborne High School.

"The bursary program is a major investment in our youth," Mapleview bursary chair Dolores Fabiano in a news release said. "And it's one that we are proud to continue with year after year."

These scholarships are presented to deserving graduates who have been accepted to college or university.

Recipients have demonstrated a willingness to help and have contributed to both their school community and the community at large.

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■ CAO

Ottaway brings 14 years of experience in same position

FROM PAGE 1

At a special meeting Wednesday, Pelham council ratified the recommendations of an ad hoc CAO selection committee to appoint Ottaway.

He has served more than 14 years as a CAO, most recently in the town of Grande Cache, Alta., where he's worked since 2006.

His accomplishments include drafting and implementing a strategic sustainability and community revitalization plan and managing the design and reconstruction of a $22-million recreation centre expansion.

"We are very excited to have Mr. Ottaway lead our Pelham team," said Mayor Dave Augustyn in a news release.

During the selection process, Ottaway demonstrated he is a "professional and experienced leader who will work with council, staff and the community to realize our vision and strategic goals," Augustyn said.

After both researching and visiting Pelham, Ottaway said he was impressed with his soon-to-be residence.

"Pelham is recognized as a progressive and vibrant community offering challenging leadership opportunities because of imminent growth," he said in the same release, adding he looks forward to working with staff and council to move the town forward.

■ **PROMOTION:** 25-year town veteran has held many acting positions worthy of an Oscar, mayor quips

Mannell town's new CIS director

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

For Alan Mannell, the acting is over.

Pelham town council Monday appointed the 25-year staff member director of community and infrastructure services.

Last fall, the engineering manager and assistant director was appointed as acting director following the resignation of Kelly Walsh.

Mannell said it was the fourth time he had served as acting director during his career.

A couple of hours after hearing about his appointment on Tuesday, he didn't want to speculate whether that experience gave him the job.

Mayor Dave Augustyn quipped that the town may have to give him an Oscar trophy his 25 years.

"I'm pleased to announce that following a lengthy evaluation process council has approved the appointment of our very own Alan Mannell as director of community and infrastructure services," the mayor said Tuesday.

> **"Give me six months to see how this works out."**
>
> *Alan Mannell, CIS director*

"As you know, Al has recently completed 25 years of service with the Town of Pelham and continues to invest a great amount of time and effort in ensuring that the department is appropriately functioning."

Augustyn said council was unanimous in its vote to make the appointment following a closed meeting at the end of Monday's regular council meeting.

Mannell said it was too early to have much reaction to the appointment.

He hasn't had much time to think about any plans for the future of the department.

"Give me six months to see how this works out," he said about reflecting on the job.

Mannell worked for Proctor and Redfern before coming to the town, said Augustyn.

"He was involved in the town's early rounds of development.

The community and infrastructure services department was created a few years ago by bringing together the engineering, public works, community services and recreation facilities departments.

It includes road maintenance, parks and recreation programs, arena, and even crossing guards, said Mannell.

With the appointment, the town has filled two of its major vacancies. Last week, it appointed Darren Ottaway as chief administrative officer to replace Martin Yamich, who retired at the end of December.

Town council has yet to hire a new fire chief and will now have to fill Mannell's now vacant position as engineering manager.

"We will advertise the position immediately," said Augustyn.

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ARTISTS HONING THEIR CRAFT

Supplied photo courtesy of Pelham Art Association

Judy Thorley of Grimsby joins workshop participants during a Pelham Art Association workshop Sunday at the Pelham Public Library. Front from left are instructor Thorley, left, and Monique Hope of Welland. In back row from left are Cathy Peters of Port Colborne, Gayle Yaksich of Hamilton, Mary Powley of Fonthill, Gunta Sturis of St. Catharines, and Vanessa Brownbridge of Fenwick. It was one of two art association workshops on the weekend.

WORKING WITH WATERCOLOURS

Supplied photo courtesy of Pelham Art Association

Artist Michael McMahon of Lockport, N.Y., on Saturday led a watercolour workshop using a Maine harbour scene. McMahon, an Ontario College of Art graduate, has been showing his works since age 12. He became a full time fine arts artist in 1981. He is well known for his "waterscapes" and his Realist Impressionist style. Areas residents may recognize McMahon as he has been a participant at the Pelham Art Festival for 18 years. His workshop was one of two on the weekend at the Pelham Public Library.

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■ **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL:** Notre Dame production is 'laugh-out-loud funny'

MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo
Breton Lalama and Chris Tsiantoulas burn up the stage during a big group number in Notre Dame's production of Anything Goes, which opened to the public on Thursday.

A ship-shape performance

MARYANNE FIRTH
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND — It's a little slice of Broadway right here in Welland.

On April 19, 20 and 21, the cast of *Anything Goes* hit the stage at Notre Dame College School.

The show ships audiences back to 1934, where they'll travel aboard a luxury liner making its way from New York to London.

MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo
The cast of Notre Dame College School's production of Anything Goes runs through a big dance number while rehearsing for opening night.

"There's a lot of mayhem and mix-ups with the first-class passengers," says director Jackie Breton, who calls the show "laugh-out-loud funny" filled with family-friendly comedy.

Anything Goes is currently running on Broadway.

It's rare to acquire rights to a show while it's running on what's considered to be the ultimate stage in theatre, says Breton, confident her cast will do it justice.

With 42 students from grades 9 to 12B taking on the Cole Porter scores, this is the largest cast Notre Dame has ever worked with.

But there are more than just those on stage making the show possible. Breton credits a behind-the-scenes ensemble for bringing the music to life, and the school's construction and visual arts students for coming together to create an impressive set.

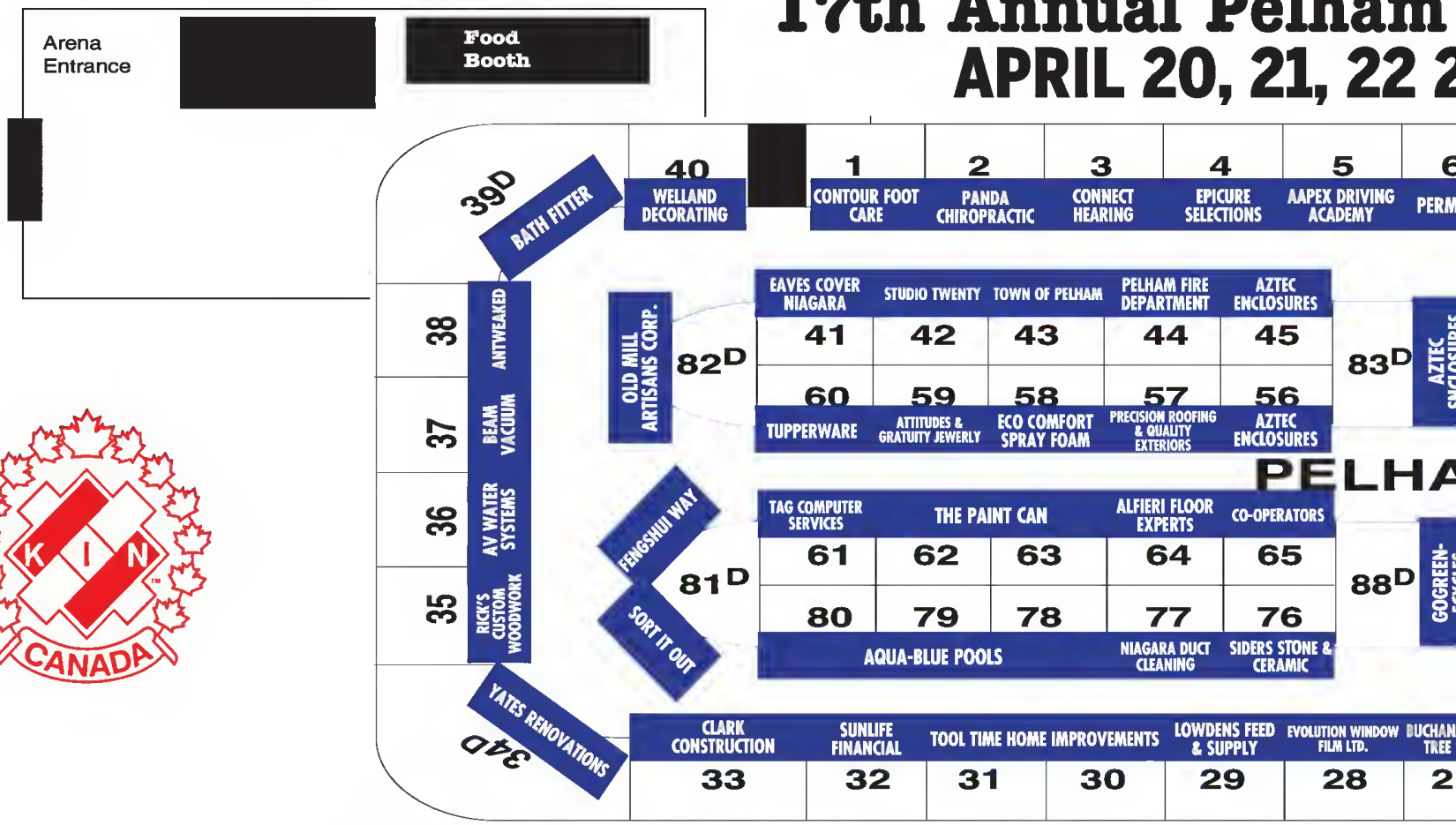
Tickets for *Anything Goes* are $10 for students and $15 for adults. They're available at the door or by calling the school at 905-788-3060. All shows begin at 7 p.m. in Leon Theatre.

ROTARY CLUB CARES ABOUT PELHAM CARES

Supplied Photo

Pelham Cares president Jane Gilmour, right, receives a cheque for $500 from the Rotary Club of Fonthill president Andrew Larmand. The cheque was presented to Pelham Cares on behalf of the employees of Fonthill TD Canada Trust represented by Carol Pitre, left. The bank employees chose the donation as a way for the Rotary Club to express its thanks for the bank's community partnership with the Rotary Club. Gilmour spoke about Pelham Cares at the Rotary Club's regular Wednesday morning meeting.

17th Annual Pelham
APRIL 20, 21, 22 2



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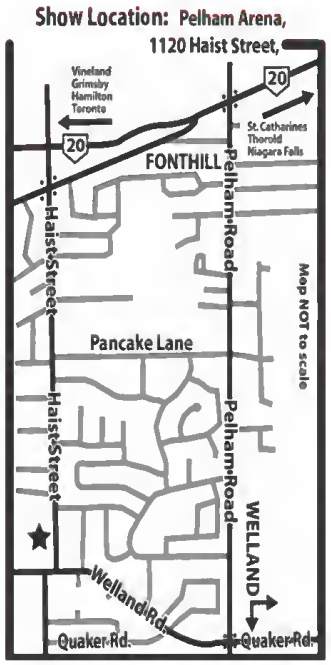

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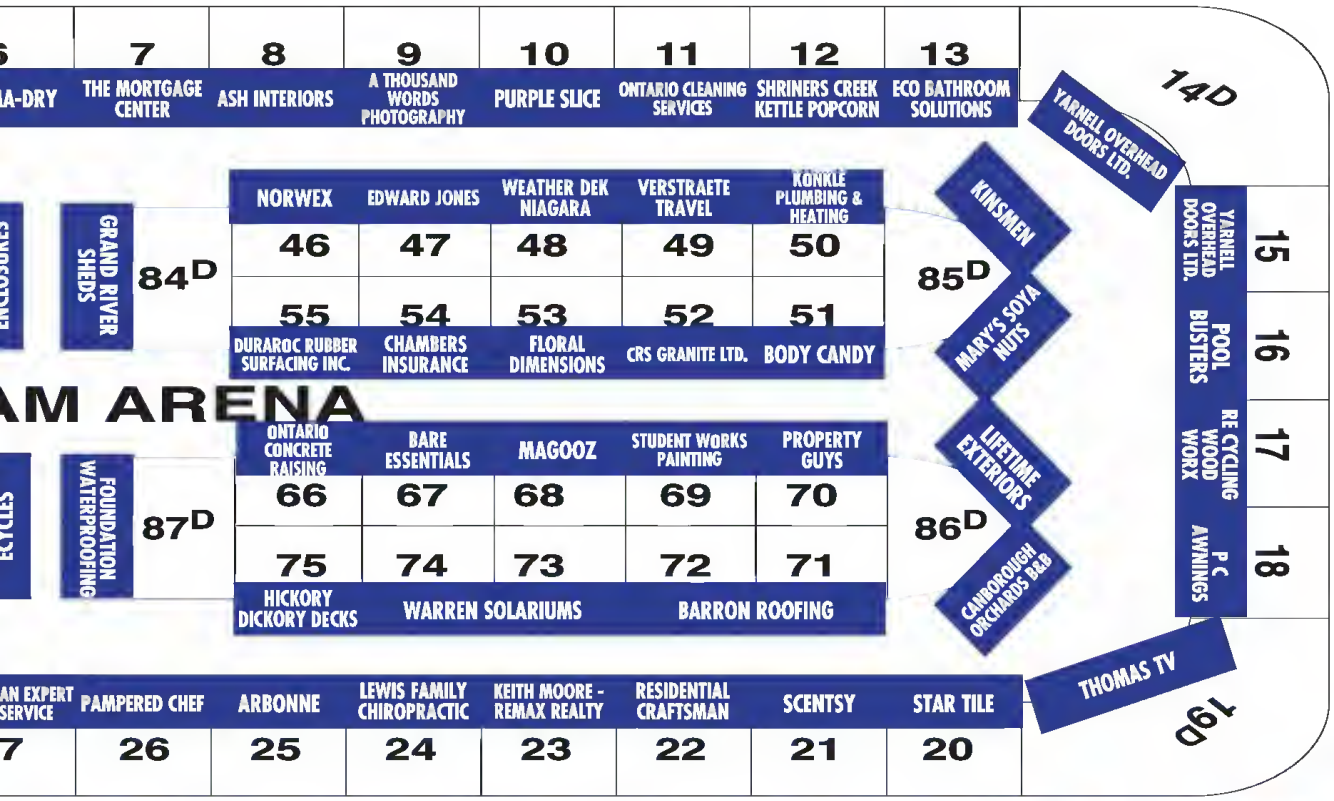

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■ **RETIREMENT:** United Way of South Niagara executive director leaving at the end of June

Peter Papp is passing the torch

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNEWS Staff

For some people retirement means relaxing, hitting the golf course and living the good life.

But not for Peter Papp.

"I couldn't see myself out on the golf course every day. For one thing, I'm terrible at it. Going golfing is like going to war for me," he says.

The executive director for the United Way of South Niagara retires June 30, after putting in more than three years with the organization.

"It's been a great run, I've really enjoyed my time here," he says. "But both personally and professionally, 2011 was tough. It's time for a rest."

However, what a dedicated social justice and anti-poverty advocate calls rest might be considered non-stop work.

"A friend of mine says I have ants in my pants. I can't help it, I'm a type A personality, I just can't stop."

Papp doesn't intend to step away from his political duties as a Ward 3 councillor in Pelham and he intends to continue to lobby government and different organizations to step up anti-poverty measures.

He also wants to continue to help the United Way and the organizations it funds grow and prosper, build resiliency and raise more money to get more projects on the go.

"The United Way needs to be much more extroverted," he says. "We need to be able to show people what we have done, we need to produce results if we want people's money and we need to work corroboratively with governments and the private sectors to change situations."

The United Way agencies of Niagara are working toward a merger and Papp supports that completely because he saw great successes and improvements when he worked at the YMCA when its agencies merged.

United Way of South Niagara has posted a job ad for an operations and marketing director who will replace Papp. He has high hopes the organization will find someone before he leaves.

Papp will also continue his involvement with the Niagara Community Foundation, Rotary Club of Welland and other organizations.

In two weeks he plans to go to Bangkok, Thailand, for a Rotary International conference and see some sights.

> **"It's been a great run, I've really enjoyed my time here. But both personally and professionally, 2011 was tough. It's time for a rest."**
>
> *Peter Papp, executive director for the United Way of South Niagara*

He hopes to spend much more time with his son, Andrew, and his golden Labrador, Casey the Convict.

Above all he wants to create a poverty-free Welland.

"I grew up in the east end of Welland and there were a lot of different ethnicities there, and when somebody was in trouble they all helped out. It didn't matter where you came from," he says.

"That's where I get (my passion for creating change). I want everyone to help out, I want to pass that on to everyone and to the youth especially because they are going to carry this torch."

VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo
Peter Papp will retire from his position as executive director of the United Way of South Niagara on June 30.

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■ **POLITICS:** Leaders luncheon serves up a rehash of hunger for jobs and growth

South Niagara mayors focused on economy

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNEWS Staff

PORT COLBORNE — South Niagara's six mayors set their difference aside last week to focus on one issue that extends beyond municipal borders — the economy.

Each of the mayors — Jim Diodati from Niagara Falls, Barry Sharpe from Welland, Doug Martin from Fort Erie, Vance Badawey from Port Colborne, Dave Augustyn from Pelham and April Jeffs from Wainfleet — discussed different aspects of south Niagara's economy, from industrial growth to agriculture.

But job creation was the underlying theme throughout the Mayors of South Niagara Luncheon organized by the chambers of commerce from throughout south Niagara, held at the Italian Canadian Cultural Centre in Port Colborne.

Although a recent disagreement between Sharpe and Badawey concerning appointing representatives to South Niagara Health Care Corp. was a topic of conversation for many of the roughly 225 people in the audience, there was only one passing reference to it during the presentation.

"If there is any trouble," Sharpe quipped at the start of his presentation, "I just want everyone to know that Coun. Jim Larouche will be playing the role of Dave Semenko and I'm Gretzky."

He was referring to the Edmonton Oilers' left winger who earned a reputation as Wayne Gretzky's bodyguard during the 1980s. Larouche, a Welland Ward 6 councillor, was one of several local politicians in the audience.

see **LUNCHEON** | page 18

What Can Help Prevent Illness ?

The answer? It's garlic. Garlic is one of the world's oldest natural, infection fighting remedies... it was even used by the pharaohs of Egypt! Modern science has shown that the allicin found in garlic is responsible for the amazing anti-infective properties of garlic. It is this little known compound that could be your best defense against the common cold virus and a host of other ailments.

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■ LUNCHEON

New jobs cause for optimism in south Niagara

FROM PAGE 17

Sharpe said there have been successes in south Niagara when it comes to job creation and investment, such as 90 permanent jobs and a $50-million investment by Welded Tube Canada, Great Lakes Biodiesel in Dain City and Ontario Solar Manufacturing Corp. all in Welland and Thurston Machine's expansion in Port Colborne.

There have, however, also been recent setbacks such as the closure of Universal Resource Recovery last summer, and the loss of 35 recycling plant jobs there.

"It's estimated that there are 20,000 new jobs in Ontario based on green energy today. The target, the province has said, is for 50,000 new jobs," Sharpe said, adding those additional 30,000 new jobs will likely be a reality by 2013.

"Niagara has always been the green energy capital of Ontario, and will continue to be. Many of those 30,000 jobs will be right here in Niagara," Sharpe added.

see LUNCHEON | PAGE 19

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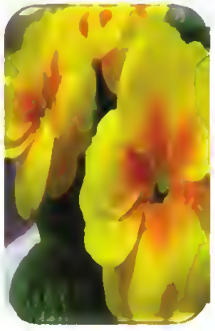

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■ LUNCHEON

Better relationships between governments and businesses needed: Badawey

FROM PAGE 18

Badawey said governments need to work with business leaders to make it easier for businesses "to create jobs that are so desperately needed throughout the entire region."

Although "there's no magic bullet" to create jobs, Badawey told the audience that included business and industry leaders that there are many initiatives being developed throughout the entire region.

He said regional Chair Gary Burroughs, who joined the mayors for the luncheon, asked Niagara's economic gateway committee "to bring forward economic strategies that focus on creating jobs and attracting investment."

"The objective is to create the necessary investment climate through the implementation of targeted incentives," such as infrastructure improvements to make employment lands more attractive and strategic marketing efforts for specific sectors.

Community improvement plans (CIPs) are another tool for attracting investment, said Augustyn.

"We keep talking about this because it works in communities," he said.

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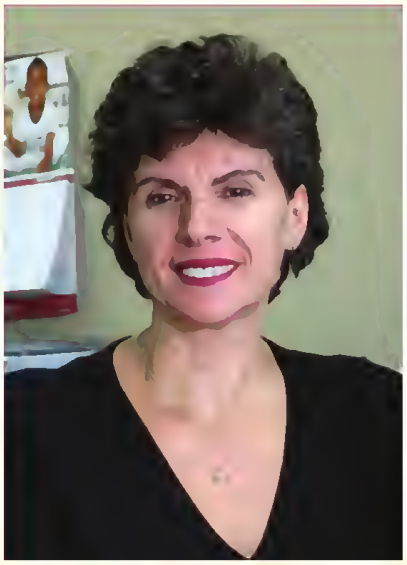

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Deaths

SATRAN, Joan 'Harrison' - Passed away on April 5, 2012 after a courageous 18 year battle with multiple myeloma. Her strength and tenacity rarely wavered and she remained true to her gentle spirit as she endured years of treatment. Her family always came first to har during this struggle. Harrison was wife, partner and BFF to Paul, mother to Kally and Taylor (BT), sistar to Lesley, sister-in-law to Allan and aunt to Kristan and Jaff. Whila battling cancer, Harrison also found time to be a hockey Mom, in housa school tutor and ona halluva of business partner. She was and still is the glua that holds our family togathar.Sha was and continues to be a hero to us all. We would lika to thank Dr. Kukreti and his taam at Princess Margaret Hospital for years of commitmant to Harrison's traatmants. Wa offer a special thanks to Colleen O'Gorman with ParaMad who is nothing short of a modern Florence Nightingale. In lieu of flowers, tha family would appreciata contributions to The Stabler Centre, Hospice Niagara, www.hospiceniagara.ca. Sincere and grateful thanks to the nurses, staff and volunteers at this centre who supported the family so warmly during this difficult time. A celebration of life for Harrison will be hosted at Peninsula Lakes Golf Club on April 21st at 2 pm. A short eulogy will begin at 2:30. Peninsula Lakes is located at 569 HWY 20 W., Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905-894-0120

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SATURDAY, APRIL 21

SPAGHETTI SUPPER Time 5 p.m. (one sitting only). Adults $10, Children to age 12- $5, UCW bake sale in the narthex, Fonthill United Church, Phone 892-6433 Monday or Wednesday to Friday mornings to reserve tickets.

PASTA DINNER with the Fonthill Lions Club at the Fonthill Lions Hall on Regional Rd. 20, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., last one till October. Adults $10, children under 12 $6. Take out orders. Cash bar available.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

OPEN HOUSE noon to 4:30 p.m. at the Greater Niagara Model Railroad Engineers club house showcasing the Fenwick Central Railroad at 1141 Maple St. in downtown Fenwick. For information see www.gnmre.ca, e-mail info@gnmre.ca

MONDAY APRIL 30

PELHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 7:30 – 9:30 p.m meeting at Fonthill Branch, Pelham Library. April speaker is Valerie Saari, Iris hybridizer, member of the American Iris Society and a fully accredited garden/exhibition judge. Come and hear this award-winning iris grower tell us why she became "Addicted to Iris Gardens". All welcome, membership only $7.

ONGOING

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FENWICK LIONS FISH FRY every second Friday at Fenwick's Centennial park from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Large two-piece dish of haddock and fires $10, one piece $8. For cole slaw add $1. This 15-Friday season runs from April to October fish fry dates are: April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15, June 29, July 13, July 27, Aug. 10, Aug. 24, Sept. 7, Sept. 21, Oct. 5 and Oct . 19.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rapelje Lodge, 277 Plymouth Rd., Welland. For info call 905-67-3914.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the third Monday of each month, except July and August, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Alzheimer Society, 403 Ontario St. Unit 1, St. Catharines. For info call 905-687-3914.

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FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN BREASTS
NO BACK ATTACHED
1/2 PRICE
1.99 lb.
3 Pkg Limit

TEXAS SWEET ONIONS
99¢ lb.

CUT FROM CANADA AAA BEEF BONELESS INSIDE ROUND ROAST
SAVE $2.00 LB.
3.99 lb.

CUT FROM OMAHA CHOICE BEEF BONELESS NEW YORK STRIP STEAKS
SAVE $6.00 LB.
7.99 lb.

DELI Specials

Deli Sliced ROAST BEEF	1/2 PRICE	3.99 lb.
Lilydale Nitrite Free OVEN ROAST TURKEY BREAST	SAVE $6.00 LB.	7.99 lb.
Salerno Deluxe MOZZARELLA CHEESE		4.99 lb.

FRESH PORK BONELESS BUTTERFLY PORK CHOPS
SAVE $3.00 LB.
3.99 lb.

FRESH LEAN GROUND PORK
1/2 PRICE
1.99 lb.

D'ITALIANO BREAD
675 g loaf
2/$4

CANADA DRY GINGER ALE A&W ROOT BEER
Case of 12
Regular or Diet
3 Case Limit
3/$10

FRUITE DRINKS or TETLEY ICED TEA
2 litre bottle
1/2 PRICE
$1
Limit 6

RAISIN BRAN
675 g box
SAVE $2.00
3.99

ROYALE FACIAL TISSUE
Box of 88 or 132
$1

MAJESTA PAPER TOWEL
8 roll pkg.
3.99

POWERADE
710 ml Bottle
$1

NO. 1 GRADE CALIFORNIA "ANDY BOY" BROCCOLI
$1 Each

NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO WHITE POTATOES
10 lb. Bag
1.99

NO.1 GRADE ONTARIO BEEFSTEAK TOMATOES
1.49 lb.

FANCY GRADE ONTARIO RED DELICIOUS APPLES
99¢ lb.

NO. 1 GRADE ONTARIO ENGLISH CUCUMBERS
89¢ Each

BROSNAN EAR CLINIC INC.

905-684-9663

5-3350 Merrittville Hwy. Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6
(Next to Grill on the Hill)

MYTH #2 Hearing instruments are uncomfortable and unattractive.

Ironically, this myth persists because modern hearing instruments, like Agil, are so well concealed that most people never see them. The styles most people see in public are actually older generation units worn either directly in the ear or in a large behind-the-ear case. Instruments nowadays are an astonishing blend of camouflage and miniaturization that disappear behind the ear, tinted to blend with your hair or skin color. They are ultra-light, and you barely feel the receiver as it hovers over your ear canal and delivers sparkling, vibrant sound.

MYTH #3 Hearing instruments are not for me. Not yet, anyway.

People who believe they have only slightly impaired hearing often make the mistake of thinking that they don't have much to gain from a hearing instrument. It's a shame, because they waste years of their lives coping and adapting, and missing out on the joy of being more fully engaged with family, friends and colleagues.

There's only one way to dispel this myth: come see us at Brosnan Ear Clinic, get a hearing evaluation, and try Agil risk free. The only way to understand what you're missing is to try these state-of-the art hearing instruments in your own home, your own office and your own daily life. If you're suffering from hearing loss, you'll see how Agil can help pull you back into the more vibrant life you love, in a way that adapting, coping, and older hearing technology cannot.

Hearing technology has come a long way.

In the beginning, there was the ear trumpet. Its advantages were that it did the job (more or less) and didn't require batteries. That was a good thing, because a battery in those days weighed about 30 pounds. Disadvantages? Just look at it!

With the development of battery powered amplification about a hundred years ago, thanks in part to development in the telephone industry, hearing aids became more effective. At their most basic they were simple amplifiers that added volume to unfiltered sound, much the same as an ear trumpet, but in a smaller and (slightly) more practical package.

The development of more compact batteries and electronics in the mid–20th century helped make the hearing aid wearable, though not so fashionable. Even so, the portable, transistor-powered hearing aid made a real difference in the lives of millions of people with hearing loss in an increasingly mobile society.

The Space Age spawned a huge wave of innovation in the miniaturization of electronics, audio circuits and batteries. In the late 70s the industry began to see instruments that could actually be custom molded and fitted to be worn in the ear. A revolution in comfort and convenience was in full swing, but the best was yet to come.

The last 20 years have seen quantum leaps in hearing technology performance due to the rapid miniaturization of microprocessors and sophisticated audio signal processing circuits.

Today, with nearly all the adjustment and sound processing controlled by a tiny on-board computer, Oticon has eliminated the need for most manual controls and has shrunken the modern hearing instrument to an astonishingly small size.

Oticon's Agil: super tiny, ultra sleek, and high-performance. You won't believe that you're wearing the result of a century of audio technology tucked discreetly behind your ear... until you put it on.

DEMO DAYS ARE ON NOW.

Take control now, and move to where you want to be... **in the center of your life, living every moment to the fullest. Try Oticon Agil RISK FREE today.**

CALL TODAY to book your ***RISK FREE* personalized demo of Oticon Agil.**

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OPEN HOUSE: APRIL 24 – 26

Don't let hearing loss hold you captive.

When you lose your hearing, you lose touch with the people and things that are an important part of your world. You feel trapped. Break free from the isolation of hearing loss with Agil from Oticon.

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Agil is the revolutionary new hearing device that helps you understand more with less effort.

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Book your ***FREE*** **personalized demo of Oticon Agil.** *Spaces are limited.*

Don't miss this opportunity to see what Agil can do for *you*!

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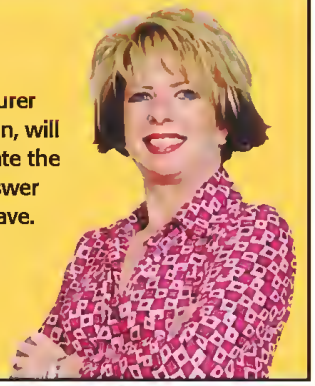
Karyne Steele, manufacturer representative from Oticon, will be on hand to demonstrate the latest technology and answer any questions you may have.



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